

**WHAT IS THE AMES HERITAGE ASSOCIATION?** The Ames Heritage Association consists of individuals who are interested in preserving the heritage of the Ames community and the surrounding area. Whether you are a genealogy buff, an amateur or professional historian, a member of an agency concerned with historical preservation, or a person who is simply interested in our local history, the Ames Heritage Association has something for you!

#### **PROGRAMS AND MEETINGS**

The Board of Directors of the Ames Heritage Association consists of active members who meet monthly — September through June. The annual membership meeting in January includes an interesting and entertaining historical program. The program, date, and location of the annual meeting is announced prior to the program.

# The Ames Intelligencer

#### **THE AMES INTELLIGENCER**

The official newsletter of the Ames Heritage Association is published three times a year — winter, spring, and fall. The newsletter contains stories and news of interest to Ames Heritage Association members and local historians. Ames Heritage Association membership includes a subscription to the newsletter.

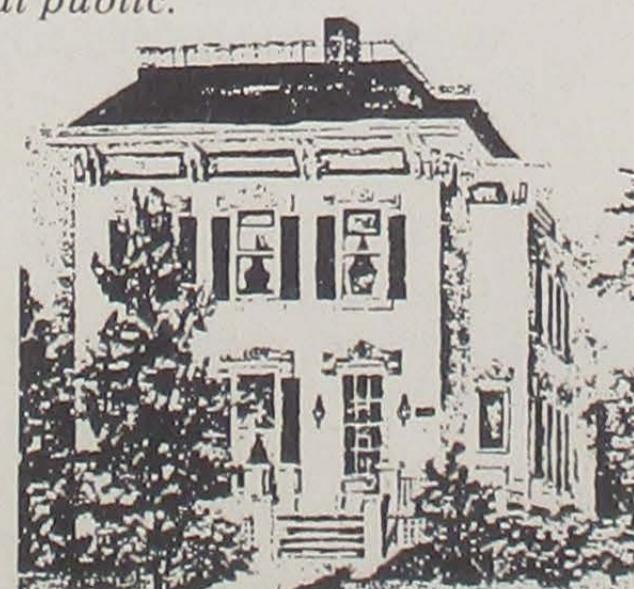
#### **SPECIAL PROJECTS**

The Ames Heritage Association is involved in a number of exciting and ambitious projects of interest to local historians.

Ames' first school - Hoggatt School - has been restored to serve as a museum and a tribute to pioneer education. The one-room schoolhouse, located on the Meeker School grounds on Burnett Avenue in Ames, provides a center of learning for school children, Iowa State University students, visitors to Ames, and residents of the area - young and old. Walking into Hoggatt School is like walking into the past.



The Ames Heritage Association, in cooperation with the Story County Conservation Board, has relocated the historical Bauge family log home to the Conservation Board's McFarland Park north of Ames. The home was built in the 1860s and stands as an excellent example of early Norwegian-American architecture. Following restoration, the cabin will become the focus for historical programming for county school children and the general public.



The Ames Heritage Association remains actively involved in promoting and monitoring Ames' local historic preservation ordinance. The ordinance presents the opportunity to take an important step towards preserving the historical and architectural heritage of Ames.

Stimulated by these exciting projects, the Ames Heritage Association has begun to discuss other long-range projects, including collecting, preserving, and displaying historical artifacts and documents; collecting oral histories from local residents; marking historical sites and landmarks; videotaping a historical tour of Ames; preserving the former Chicago and Northwestern Railroad Depot in downtown Ames; and, eventually, founding a historical museum.

*Please enroll me as a member of the AMES HERITAGE ASSOCIATION.*

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone Number \_\_\_\_\_

Type of Membership:

Regular (\$5.00)

Business and Organization (\$25.00 or more)

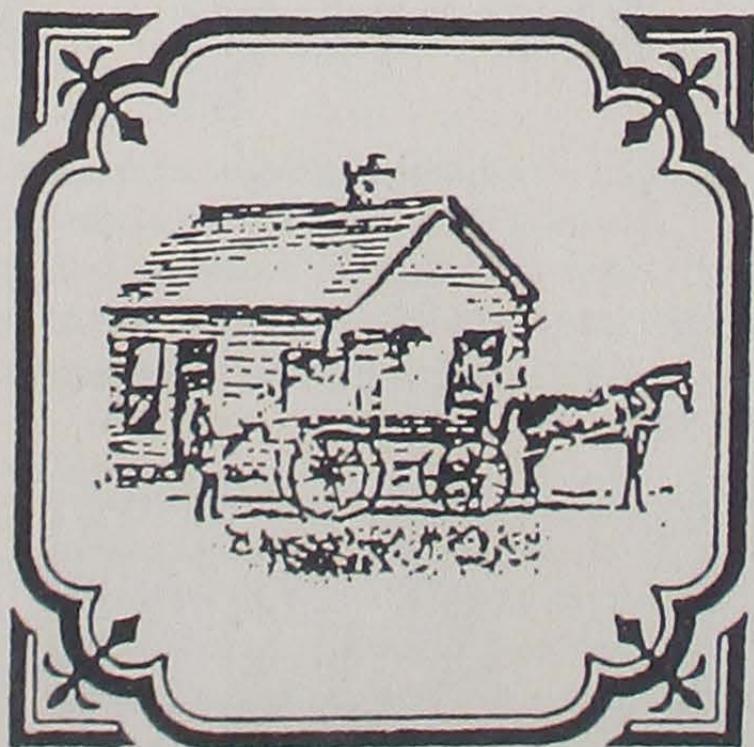
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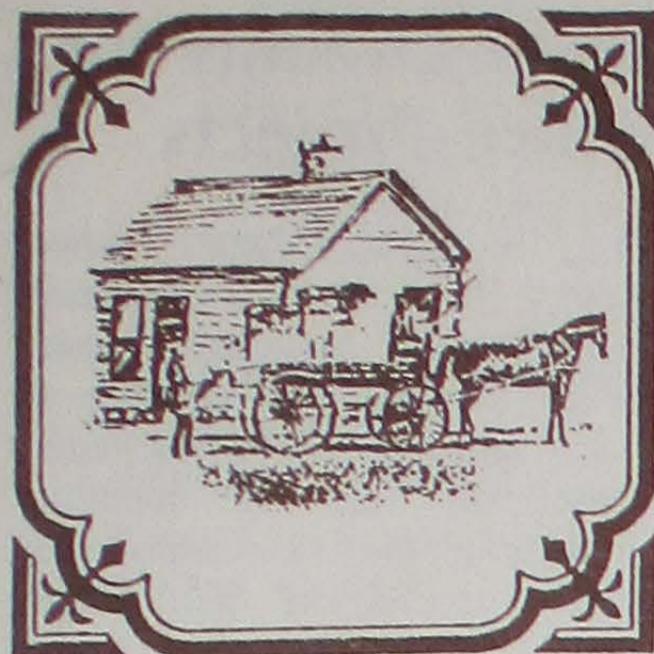
*Please make checks payable to the AMES HERITAGE ASSOCIATION and mail to  
The Ames Heritage Association, P.O. Box 821, Ames, Iowa 50010.*

*Thank you!*

Ames Heritage Association  
P.O. Box 821  
Ames, Iowa 50010



*Ames  
Heritage  
Association*



# The Ames Intelligencer

1981?

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## Historic Hoggatt School Restoration Advances

Blue wood smoke again will rise upward from the freshly built brick chimney of the 1861 Hoggatt School.

That smoke will curl above the fragrant, newly laid cedar shingles that cover the diminutive building that served as the first school in what now is Ames. Only about a dozen children attended when the school opened in 1862.

The new shingles and the chimney are steps in the restoration of the historic building, now resting on a sturdy new foundation of native stone at the school's new site on the Meeker school grounds.

As late as April, the structure stood as a bedraggled wing of an empty dwelling about to be torn down to make way for a commercial building. The Ames Heritage Association was formed to attempt to save the structure, and Mike Rolling, its owner, gave it to the group. In April it was moved to its present site.

Openings made in the north side of the building when it and another portion of the dwelling of which it was long part are now being repaired. Much of the 1861 siding on that end still is in place. Exterior work unfinished before deep winter arrives will be protected until spring when it will be completed.

Interior work scheduled for early next year include removal of a partition, replastering and reflooring. Most of the original laths still exists beneath crumbling



*Fragrant new wooden shingles replace layers of old roofs on the Hoggatt School. The rebuilt chimney stands in its original position. — Photo by Kathleen Saccopoulos*

plaster. Some interior work may be done during the winter.

Following restoration of the building, a meticulous refurnishing in the manner of the 1860's will make the school ready for use by children and others as a living history experience. The school was built on the east bank of Squaw Creek north of the present Lincoln Way bridge as a township school before Ames and Ames schools were organized. After Ames schools were organized and a larger building constructed, the Hoggatt school eventually was moved to a site on Third street and became a dwelling. It remained at that site

until it was moved to its present location in April.

The school originally was built on land provided by the Hoggatt family.

## ANNUAL MEETING

Larry Adams, curator of the Eisenhower home in Boone, will speak at the annual meeting of the Ames Heritage Association at 7:30 p.m. Wednesday, Jan. 13, at Meeker School.

Business scheduled includes election of officers and the presentation of the annual report by Pres. Farwell T. Brown.

## The Ames Intelligencer

Ames Heritage Association  
1523 Curtiss avenue  
Ames, Iowa 50010  
Farwell T. Brown, *president*

"The Ames Intelligencer", selected as the name of this report to members and friends of the Ames Heritage Association, is appropriate because "The Ames Intelligencer" was the name of the first newspaper established in Ames.

Beginning in 1868 the name, "Intelligencer" was in continual use until 1916 when "The Weekly Intelligencer" was changed to "The Weekly Tribune."

## Detective Work

To discover exactly how the old Hoggatt school originally looked before its transformation into a dwelling, three professional architects have spent many hours of detective work in the old building.

In their search, they have looked into the little attic, where generations of mud daubers have left a century of abandoned nests; and into the space beneath the building, bumping their heads on still bark covered logs that support the floor. They have loosened bits of plaster, ripped up patches of floor covering, noted and measured obvious patches in walls and ceiling.

The architects who helped are H. Summerfield Day, retired Iowa State University architect and author of a book, Iowa State University and Its Buildings, 1859-1979; W. D. Lee, of Rudi-Lee-Dryer & Associates; and Wesley I. Shank, of the Iowa State University architectural faculty.

As a result of their efforts, the architects have been able to ascertain confidently where doors, windows and the chimney were situated.

## 34 Star Flag

An American flag resplendent with the 34 stars representing states in the Union in 1861 will be presented by the Sundial Chapter of the Daughters of the American Revolution for use in the Hoggatt School.

The 2 by 3 foot red, white and blue banner has been ordered from Martin Flag Company of Fort Dodge. A brass plaque will accompany the flag.

Farwell T. Brown, president of the Ames Heritage Association, will receive the flag and speak at a meeting at the Broiler March 1, according to Mrs. Bette McCullough, DAR chapter president.

DAR members have been asked to bring to the meeting that day any objects or materials they think might be of use in refurbishing the school. Materials not needed will be returned. Already some old text books and a portrait of George Washington have been offered.

## 1861 Landscape

Old fashioned flowers like those brought west in pioneer wagons, along with native Iowa trees and plants, are being considered in landscape plans for the Hoggatt school.

Because the school and its grounds will be actively used by children, they will have to be considered in making planting plans. But old fashioned flowers and native plants are hardy, too.

The Ames Garden Club already has expressed some interest in planning and planting the grounds, as also has the Meeker PTO.

About a dozen Ames High School students under the direction of Donald Faas provided considerable help in the restoration of Hoggatt school by taking down a chimney, taking off siding and hauling brick. They were from a Trades and Industrial class and from an Industrial Arts class.

## Bright Dreams for Future Projects

As the old Hoggatt school resumes its original appearance, Ames Heritage Association members are turning their attention to broader and more ambitious plans.

From the time the founding members of the Association first gathered around the then forlorn little 1861 schoolhouse and schemed for its preservation and restoration, they saw it as only the first of a series of projects to save some of the best and most interesting local treasures for future use and education.

Dreams envision building the Association into a strong and permanent organization dedicated to preserving not only buildings and monuments, but also to saving traditions and ideals that mark the development of the remarkable educational, agricultural and industrial community of Ames.

Among the Association's dream projects, perhaps the most important is the eventual founding of an Ames museum to serve as a repository for artifacts and materials and as a center for other local historical activities. Such a museum would serve important educational functions and help preserve the flavor of the city's past and be of sentimental importance to its citizens.

Organized under Iowa law as a charitable and educational corporation, the Association is in a splendid position to expand its historical and educational efforts as extensively as energy and public support permit.

Suggestions for future projects are eagerly sought and include such activities as marking important sites, preserving some buildings and especially in collecting books, documents and records, photographs and other materials for preservation and display.

## Generous Help Given School

Generous help from many individuals and organizations is making possible the preservation and restoration of the historic Hoggatt school.

Organization gifts were topped by a commitment for up to \$5,000. One \$1,000 life membership and several \$100 sustaining memberships have been received; and almost 200 regular \$5 memberships have been sent in.

Individuals ranging in age from Sixth graders to Senior Citizens have donated hundreds of hours of work cleaning brick, building the foundation, doing carpentry, typing and dozens of other tasks. Others have provided use of equipment, have donated materials or otherwise helped.

Those who contributed include: Ames Fire Department, stock tank full of water for mixing mortar; Ames Foundation, funds for general renovation; Ames High School trades and industrial arts class directed by Don Faas, cleaning brick, removing siding; Ames Kiwanis Club, funds for interior renovation; Ames Lions Club, funds; Ames Woman's Club, history and literature division, funds.

J.D. Armstrong, use of truck with driver for hauling stone and sand, bricks for chimney; Jack Barrow, carpentry; Bricklayers Union, Local 27, Ralph Hyer and Lawrence Willson, masonry; Chicago and Northwestern railroad, special co-operation; Daughters of the American Revolution, flag; Mrs. Constance R. Dodge, typing; Hallett Construction Company, gravel, sand and rocks; Heritage Cablevision, special co-operation.

Meeker Sixth grade, Mrs. Suzanne Kelley, teacher, supervised by Lee Himan, principal, cleaning brick; Nelson Electric Co., loan of meter box for electric service; Oakes Ames Questors, funds; Robert Reichardt, co-ordinator and

## Wanted: Mittens Sunbonnets, Maps

Furnishings for the 1861 Hoggatt school, built three years before a railroad reached Ames, are eagerly being sought to complete the restoration of that historic structure. They aren't easy to find.

Wooden desks suitable for a pioneer classroom are being hand-crafted by Herbert Hatch, retired principal of Meeker school. A flag with the correct number of stars is being provided by the Daughters of the American Revolution. Some suitable books have been offered by the Ames Public Library and by some individuals. A few slates and other objects have been donated.

But such hard-to-find objects as caps, sunbonnets, mittens, dinner-pails, maps, a framed picture of Pres. Lincoln are needed to create a lived-in atmosphere for the room.

A woodburning stove still must be obtained along with a woodbox. If an original cannot be obtained, a replica may have to be used, but it must be of a design typical of those used in the decade the school was built.

No photographs or descriptions of the interior of the school have been discovered, but every effort is being made to furnish the room in a style typical of the period. Research concerning school furnishing is under way by Charles Kniker, of the College of Education, Iowa State University.

Donations of suitable materials are sought as is information about where such materials might be obtained. Individuals with materials they would be willing to contribute should call Farwell T. Brown, 232-9444; Charles R. Kniker, 292-9001; or Herbert Hatch, 232-5807.

### Ames Rotary Club, moving foundation and roof.

labor; Mike Rolling, donated building; Town and Country Kiwanis, brick cleaning.

## THREE SCHOOLS REMEMBERED

Fragments from two other historic Ames area schools will be preserved in the restored 1861 Hoggatt building.

Bricks for the restored chimney are from the heating plant of the old Ames High School built in 1912 and demolished last summer. The bricks and two blackboards were donated by J.D. Armstrong.

Wainscoting and a chalk trough from the old Bloomington school still standing northeast of Ames have been donated by Dean Olson, present owner. As a child he attended the school. Bloomington was an active pioneer town but gradually disappeared after the railroad bypassed it and was routed through Ames.

## RENEWALS DUE

Ames Heritage Association membership renewals for 1982 will be due Jan. 1.

Membership payments and contributions to the Association are income tax deductible.

Annual membership dues are: Regular, \$5; Business and Organization, \$25 or more; Sustaining, \$100. Life membership is \$1,000.

Make checks payable to Ames Heritage Association. Hand them to any Association officer or mail them with the following coupon.

Rodney Fox, secretary  
1523 Curtiss avenue  
Ames, Iowa 50010

Please enroll me as a 1982 member of the Ames Heritage Association. I enclose \$\_\_\_\_\_

Name \_\_\_\_\_

Address \_\_\_\_\_

Phone \_\_\_\_\_

## Old Schoolroom Will Hum Again

After restoration, the 1861 Hoggatt school is expected to function actively as an educational institution teaching lessons in living history to generations of Ames children and others.

Of course, the building itself will stand as a monument to the hardy pioneers who settled the Ames area and to their interest in education. And the interior with its wealth of period artifacts and furnishings will be a museum in its own right.

But it is envisioned that the old schoolroom will again hum with children's voices as classes meet there for living lessons in what early Iowa was like. Already members of the Ames Retired Teachers Association have suggested that members might don pioneer costumes to conduct school sessions with students seated at handmade wooden desks and warmed by a wood burning stove. Out of such vivid history experiences it is hoped that students will absorb some notion of the idealism of the early American dream.

Use of the building for classes will be made available not only to Ames students but also to students from surrounding areas. The building should become an asset to Iowa State University education majors, especially to university classes in the history of education.

In addition, it is planned that the school be made available for use as a meeting place by small groups, especially those interested in local history and education. Too small for large meetings, the school still can be used by tour groups and convention gatherings who might want to inspect it.

Some planners even envision the possibility of conducting such picturesque events as spelling contests and box socials.



*Sarah Jane Emery in 1862 became the first teacher in the Hoggatt School, built by the Washington Township District before Ames was organized.*

## Film Stars School

The Hoggatt school stars in a documentary film produced for the public access channel of Ames Heritage Cablevision in November.

The film was created by a class in advanced TV news in the Department of Journalism and Mass Communication at Iowa State University. Steve Dropkin, a senior in the department, directed the documentary under the supervision of Prof. Thomas Beell.

The presentation focused on efforts to restore the building and on plans for making it a living history experience for children and others.

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## Hoggatts Deed Land for School

Hoggat School's history, goes back to 1861 when the one acre site located just East of Squaw Creek and North of what is now Lincoln Way was deeded by Lucian and Abigail Hoggatt for school purposes. Ames was yet to even be platted and a railroad was still only a dream of men like John I. Blair, Iowa's Railroad builder. Story County came into existence and Nevada was designated as the County seat in 1853. A young woman, Sara Jane Emery, had come in 1857 from Ohio with her family to settle and teach school her first term in 1858 at a rural school near Nevada. At age 21 she became the first to teach in the Hoggatt School.

Sara Emery boarded for a time at the Farm House the first portion of which had just been built at the College farm nearby. Among her pupils were children from the Fitzpatrick and the Hoggatt families. In 1865 she married Thomas Gossard. A grandson, Tom Gossard, now resides in Ames. That same year the Chicago Northwestern Railroad first ran trains as far West as Ames. The history of the State College to the West and the Village of Ames to the East had begun to unfold.

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